## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS WICHITA FALLS DIVISION

RUMBLE, INC.;	)	
RUMBLE USA INC.; and	)	
RUMBLE CANADA INC.,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Civil Action No. 7:24-cv-00115-B
	)	
WORLD FEDERATION OF	)	
ADVERTISERS; DIAGEO PLC;	)	
WPP PLC; and GROUPM	)	
WORLDWIDE, INC.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

# JOINT MOTION TO EXTEND TIME TO ANSWER OR OTHERWISE RESPOND AND TO ESTABLISH BRIEFING SCHEDULE

Plaintiffs Rumble, Inc., Rumble USA Inc., and Rumble Canada Inc. ("Plaintiffs") and Defendants WPP PLC ("WPP"), GroupM Worldwide, Inc. ("GroupM"), Diageo PLC ("Diageo"), and World Federation of Advertisers ("WFA")<sup>1</sup> respectfully request that the Court extend the deadline for Defendants to answer or otherwise respond to the amended complaint to and through **February 7**, **2025**—an extension of 30 days to the current deadline. The Parties also request the entry of a briefing schedule for any timely filed Rule 12(b) motions as follows: **April 4**, **2025** will be the deadline for Plaintiffs to file

<sup>1</sup> WPP, GroupM, Diageo, and WFA are collectively referred to herein as "Defendants," and Defendants and Plaintiffs are collectively referred to herein as the "Parties."

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any responses to any Rule 12(b) motions; and **May 20, 2025** will be the deadline for Defendants to file any replies in support of the Rule 12(b) motions.

In support of this motion, the parties state as follows:

#### PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

- 1. On August 6, 2024, Plaintiffs filed their original complaint in this case (the "Rumble Case"). The three, original Defendants' answer/response deadlines to the complaint were as follows: GroupM's deadline was November 5, 2024 (Dkt. 20); WPP's deadline was December 5, 2024 (Dkt. 21); and WFA's deadline was December 13, 2024 (Dkt. 15).
- 2. On September 20, 2024, Plaintiffs amended their complaint in this case to, among other things, sue Diageo. Dkt. 13. Diageo's original answer/response deadline was November 21, 2024. Dkt. 22.
- 3. In an effort to coordinate motions and briefing, Defendants (other than Diageo) filed an unopposed motion to extend the answer/response deadline to January 8, 2025. Dkt. 24. The Court granted that extension for those three Defendants. Dkt. 25. Shortly thereafter, Diageo sought the same extension, to which Plaintiffs were also unopposed, and the Court granted that extension. Dkt. 27, 29.

#### REQUESTED RELIEF

- 4. The Parties jointly request the following deadlines:
  - a. **February 7, 2025** Defendants' deadline to answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint.

- b. **April 4, 2025** Plaintiffs' deadline to respond to any Rule 12(b) motions filed by Defendants.
- c. **May 30, 2025** Defendants' deadline to file any reply briefs in support of any Rule 12(b) motions.
- 5. Good cause exists to extend the answer/response deadline and establish the requested briefing schedule. *See* FED. R. CIV. P. 6(b)(1)(A).
- 6. Given the complex nature of this antitrust suit, and the need for the foreign-based Defendants (WPP, Diageo, and WFA) to coordinate with their U.S.-based counsel, a short, 30-day extension is well justified. Moreover, Defendants intend to file consolidated briefing to promote judicial efficiency by presenting any issues for decision concisely and efficiently to this Court in as few filings as possible. A 30-day extension will facilitate that effort among Defendants. The extension also allows Defendants to avoid intensive briefing efforts during the holiday season.
- 7. The requested briefing schedule separately establishes realistic deadlines for responses and replies, such that the Parties and the Court have certainty regarding the Rule 12(b)-briefing process.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This requested extension and briefing schedule would also substantially match the

recently amended answer/response deadline and briefing schedule in the related case pending before this Court, *X Corp. v. World Federation of Advertisers*, 7:24-CV-00114-B. Until the recent extension in the X case, entered on December 5, 2024, the case brought by X Corp. had an answer/response deadline approximately a month before this case's answer/response deadline. The relief requested herein would ensure that World Federation of Advertisers, which is a defendant in both cases, can appropriately prepare and coordinate its briefing in both cases.

Accordingly, the Parties respectfully request that this Court grant this motion, extend Defendants' time to answer or otherwise respond to Plaintiffs' amended complaint to February 7, 2025, and establish the briefing schedule for any Rule 12(b) motions as set forth above.

#### Respectfully submitted.

#### <u>/s/ John C. Sullivan</u>

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on December 20, 2024, the foregoing document was filed using the Court's CM/ECF system, which constitutes service to all attorneys of record who have registered for CM/ECF updates.

<u>/s/ David C. Miller</u> David C. Miller